

**AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 15, 2012**

IN ATTENDANCE:

**Alan Baker
Ken Francis
Lois Noble
Deb Talamini**

**John Burnham
Al Floyd
Barbara Sherman
Tom Talamini**

**John Drake
Albert Grant
Dick Sherman**

**Joanne Drapeau
Jim Halloran
Dick Sullivan**

ABSENT: Ray Jones

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** 7:08 PM

2. **MINUTES** of Special October 18, 2012 Meeting: Approved, with 4 abstentions.

3. **ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:** Under New Business: **5d. Volunteer list update**

4. **ON-GOING / OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. River Review – No one from Commission has been on the river but hiking trail from Stiles Bridge to the cottonwood is pretty good but then the rest needs work to avoid starting all over come springtime.
- b. Water testing – Testing continues. Now 2 sample bottles are being taken at each site because with the students of Dr. Martin doing the testing, there wasn't enough water to test with one bottle.
- c. Scantic River State Park Trail / Melrose Bridge – Trail is being used and it was reported that someone riding a mountain bike had an accident. The members went on record as to the dangers of riding or hiking alone. There are several trees down from recent storm and work will need to be done prior to our New Year's Day hike which this year will take place in the state park. Discussion as to the ridge trail in the winter and need for better markings. Member Alan Baker is working on an alternative which will be ready for the hike.
- d. Work Party - On November 3rd, 7 workers (5 Commission members and 2 other volunteers) entered the river at Omelia Road and went south about a mile, and worked on a large snag. Pictures were taken and passed around to the members.
- e. Window decals – There were 2 sold at the meeting, leaving 80 available.

5. **New Business**

- a. November / December Work Party Schedules – December 1 will be a river work party, to meet at 8:30 at John's barn, to enter the river at Omelia Road at 9AM. Then December 9 there will be a work party on the State Park trail in preparation for the New Year's Day hike. On December 29th a shakedown hike will take place just to ensure all is set for the NYD hike, time to be determined at the next meeting. There is adequate parking at Melrose Road and so no shuttle will be necessary on Jan. 1.
- b. SRWA – At its annual meeting, "Col. Hazard" gave a presentation of the powder mill and the history of that area. They will have their Super Bowl Sunday hike as usual and have already scheduled in their Spring Splash.
- c. Patch News Blog – Members discussed what they wanted on the blog and gave Member Deb Talamini suggested items to cover. She will compose it and send it out to members for input before finalizing it. Anyone can add something each month or more often when activities have been done. .

- d. **Volunteer List** - Chairman Dick Sherman suggested that we put out a request to all on the email list to respond as to whether they wanted to be kept on the list and receive information as to our meetings and activities. This would give us a better idea of the number to be able to count on for events.

PUBLIC INPUT: None.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Sherman – 11/16/2012